

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of constructing a body image, the method comprising:
prompting a subject to capture, using an image capture device, at least one initial body image of the subject;
causing presentation of at least one prompt prompting the subject to self-evaluate an actual condition of the subject's own body;
enabling the subject to respond to the at least one prompt; and
enabling the initial body image to be altered based on the subject's response to the at least one prompt, to thereby reflect in the altered image the self-evaluation of the subject.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the image capture device comprises at least one of a digital camera, a scanner, a web cam, a camcorder, and a film camera.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein prompting the subject includes instructing the subject to use the image capture device.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one prompt comprises at least one question.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one prompt is presented graphically in multiple choice form.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one prompt prompts the subject to self-evaluate at least one of skin pigmentation, skin texture, skin sheen, skin tone, skin mattiness, skin lines, skin wrinkles, distribution of wrinkles, intensity of wrinkles, intensity of pores, depth of pores, color tone, color homogeneity, spots,

freckles, shininess, oiliness, roughness, distribution of hair, thickness of hair, length of hair, density of hair, on the subject's own body.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the body image includes a facial image, and wherein the at least one prompt prompts the subject to self-evaluate characteristics of the subject's own face.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising enabling a subject to view a time-lapse projection of the altered image.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the time-lapse projection is based on an assumption that the subject has followed a particular beauty regimen.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the time-lapse projection is based on an assumption that the subject has not followed a particular beauty regimen.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the initial body image is a facial image, wherein the actual condition comprises at least one of skin pigmentation, skin texture, skin sheen, skin tone, skin mattiness, skin wrinkles, and skin lines, wherein the actual condition is located in regions of at least one of the eyes, forehead, cheeks, lips, brow, and nose, and wherein the image is altered to reflect the subject's self-evaluation of the actual condition.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising causing at least a portion of the initial body image to be displayed on a display device, causing at least one control element to be displayed on the display device, and enabling activation of the control element to alter said at least a portion of the image displayed on the display device.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the actual condition is wrinkles and wherein movement of the control element in a first direction causes an increase in the appearance of wrinkles on said at least a portion of the image displayed on the display device and movement of the control element in a second direction causes a decrease in the appearance of wrinkles on said at least a portion of the image displayed on the display device.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the at least one control element comprises first and second control elements and the actual condition is wrinkles, wherein activation of the first control element causes an increase in the appearance of wrinkles on said at least a portion of the image displayed on the display device and activation of the second control element causes a decrease in the appearance of wrinkles on said at least a portion of the image displayed on the display device.

15. The method of claim 1, further comprising causing a plurality of selectable condition representations to be displayed on the display device, and enabling the subject to select at least one of the condition representations.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the at least one prompt is associated with the plurality of selectable condition representations and wherein the subject's response to the prompt comprises selection of at least one of the representations.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein enabling the initial body image to be altered comprises enabling the initial body image to be altered to include at least one condition representation selected by the subject.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein the plurality of selectable condition representations are caused to be displayed in at least one of a one-by-one fashion and a simultaneous fashion.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the plurality of selectable condition representations are displayed by means of one of a slide show presentation and a movie presentation.

20. The method of claim 16, wherein the actual condition comprises wrinkles and wherein the selectable condition representations are representation of varying appearances of wrinkles.

21. The method of claim 1, further comprising causing display on a display device of at least a portion of the initial body image, and wherein the at least one prompt further prompts the subject to compare said at least a portion of the body image displayed on the display device to the subject's own body.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the enabling of the subject to respond to the at least one prompt comprises enabling the subject to indicate whether said at least a portion of the body image displayed on the display device accurately represents the actual condition of the subject's own body, and wherein enabling the initial image to be altered comprises enabling the image to be altered when the subject believes said at least a portion of the body image displayed on the display device does not accurately represent the actual condition.

23. The method of claim 1, wherein the initial body image is an image of at least a portion of the subject's face.

24. The method of claim 1, further comprising enabling the subject to store the altered image.

25. The method of claim 1, further comprising enabling the subject to receive information about at least one beauty product for treating the actual condition.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the information comprises a recommendation to use the at least one beauty product.

27. The method of claim 25, wherein enabling the subject to receive information comprises enabling the subject to view a time lapse projection of the altered image based on an assumption of the subject using the at least one beauty product to treat the actual condition.

28. The method of claim 25, further comprising enabling the subject to purchase the at least one beauty product.

29. The method of claim 26, wherein the at least one beauty product is a cosmetic product.

30. The method of claim 1, further comprising enabling the subject to simulate use of at least one beauty product on the altered image.

31. The method of claim 30, further comprising enabling the subject to select the at least one beauty product from a plurality of beauty products.

32. The method of claim 30, wherein the at least one beauty product comprises at least one makeup product.

33. The method of claim 30, wherein the at least one beauty product comprises at least one product for treating the actual condition.

34. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises enabling extraction of at least one portion of the initial body image and enabling the subject to view the extracted portion on a display device, and wherein the at least one prompt prompts the subject to self-evaluate an actual condition of an actual portion of the subject corresponding to the extracted portion.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein the enabling the initial body image to be altered comprises altering at least the extracted portion of the initial body image based on the subject's response to the prompt.

36. The method of claim 34, wherein the enabling extraction comprises enabling extraction of a plurality of portions of the initial body image.

37. The method of claim 1, further comprising causing display, on a display device, of a representation of the initial body image having fuzzy distortion.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein the displayed image is altered, based on the subject's response to the at least one prompt, to remove at least a portion of the fuzzy distortion.

39. The method of claim 38, wherein each response to the at least one prompt causes further removal of the fuzzy distortion.

40. The method of claim 38, wherein the displayed image is altered so that a representation of the actual condition is substituted in place of said at least a portion of the fuzzy distortion.

41. A method of constructing a body image, the method comprising:

- receiving an initial body image of a subject, wherein the initial body image is an image captured using an image capture device;
- presenting at least one prompt prompting the subject to self-evaluate an actual condition of the subject's own body;
- receiving the subject's response to the at least one prompt; and
- enabling the initial body image to be altered based on the subject's response to the at least one prompt, to thereby reflect in the altered image the self-evaluation of the subject.

42. A method of constructing an image of an external body condition, the method comprising:

- prompting a subject to capture, using an image capture device, at least one representative image of an external body condition of a subject;

- causing presentation to the subject of at least one first prompt prompting the subject to self-evaluate at least one of actual color and actual texture of the external body condition;

- enabling the subject to respond to the at least one first prompt;

- enabling generation, based on the representative image and the at least one response, of an enhanced image intended to more accurately portray the subject's external body condition;

- causing the enhanced image to be displayed to the subject;

- causing presentation to the subject of at least one second prompt prompting

the subject to indicate whether the enhanced image is accurate; and

enabling the subject the subject to respond to the at least one second prompt.

43. The method of claim 42, wherein the image capture device comprises at least one of a digital camera, a scanner, a web cam, a camcorder, and a film camera.

44. The method of claim 43, wherein prompting the subject includes instructing the subject to use the image capture device.

45. The method of claim 42, wherein the at least one first prompt comprises at least one question.

46. The method of claim 42, wherein the at least one first prompt is presented graphically in multiple choice form.

47. The method of claim 42, wherein the at least one first prompt prompts the subject to self-evaluate wrinkles on the subject's own body.

48. The method of claim 42, wherein the representative image includes a facial image, and wherein the at least one first prompt prompts the subject to self-evaluate characteristics of the subject's own face.

49. The method of claim 42, further comprising enabling the subject to view a time-lapse projection of the enhanced image.

50. The method of claim 49, wherein the time-lapse projection is based on an assumption that the subject has followed a particular beauty regimen.

51. The method of claim 49, wherein the time-lapse projection is based on an assumption that the subject has not followed a particular beauty regimen.

52. The method of claim 42, wherein the representative image is a facial image, and wherein the at least one first prompt prompts the subject to self-evaluate one of skin pigmentation, skin texture, skin sheen, skin tone, skin mattiness, skin wrinkles, and skin lines, and wherein the enhanced image reflects the subject's self-evaluation.

53. The method of claim 42, further comprising causing at least a portion of the representative image to be displayed on a display device, causing at least one control element to be displayed on the display device, and enabling activation of the control element to alter said at least a portion of the image displayed on the display device.

54. The method of claim 53, wherein movement of the control element in a first direction causes an increase in the appearance of wrinkles on said at least a portion of the image displayed on the display device and movement of the control element in a second direction causes a decrease in the appearance of wrinkles on said at least a portion of the image displayed on the display device.

55. The method of claim 53, wherein the at least one control element comprises first and second control elements, and wherein activation of the first control element causes an increase in the appearance of wrinkles on said at least a portion of the image displayed on the display device and activation of the second control element causes a decrease in the appearance of wrinkles on said at least a portion of the image displayed on the display device.

56. The method of claim 42, further comprising causing a plurality of selectable condition representations to be displayed on the display device, and enabling the subject to select at least one of the condition representations.

57. The method of claim 56, wherein the at least one first prompt is associated with the plurality of selectable condition representations and wherein the subject's response to the at least one first prompt comprises selection of at least one of the representations.

58. The method of claim 57, wherein enabling generation of the enhanced body image comprises enabling generation of an enhanced body image including at least one condition representation selected by the subject.

59. The method of claim 57, wherein the plurality of selectable condition representations are caused to be displayed in at least one of a one-by-one fashion and a simultaneous fashion.

60. The method of claim 59, wherein the plurality of selectable condition representations are displayed by means of one of a slide show presentation and a movie presentation.

61. The method of claim 56, wherein the selectable condition representations are representation of varying appearances of wrinkles.

62. The method of claim 42 further comprising causing display on a display device of at least a portion of the representative image, and wherein the at least one first prompt further prompts the subject to compare said at least a portion of the representative image displayed on the display device to the subject's own body.

63. The method of claim 42, wherein the at least one second prompt prompts the subject to self-evaluate whether the enhanced image accurately represents the actual condition of the subject's own body, and wherein the method further comprises enabling the subject to cause alteration of the enhanced image when the subject responds to the at least one second prompt with an indication that the enhanced image is not accurate.

64. The method of claim 42, wherein the representative image is an image of at least a portion of the subject's face.

65. The method of claim 42, further comprising enabling the subject to store the enhanced image.

66. The method of claim 42, further comprising enabling the subject to receive information about at least one beauty product for treating the external body condition

67. The method of claim 66, wherein the information comprises a recommendation to use the at least one beauty product.

68. The method of claim 66, wherein enabling the subject to receive information comprises enabling the subject to view a time lapse projection of the enhanced image based on an assumption of the subject using the at least one beauty product to treat the condition.

69. The method of claim 66, further comprising enabling the subject to purchase the at least one beauty product.

70. The method of claim 69, wherein the at least one beauty product is a cosmetic product.

71. The method of claim 42, further comprising enabling the subject to simulate use of at least one beauty product on the enhanced image.

72. The method of claim 71, further comprising enabling the subject to select the at least one beauty product from a plurality of beauty products.

73. The method of claim 71, wherein the at least one beauty product comprises at least one makeup product.

74. The method of claim 71, wherein the at least one beauty product comprises at least one product for treating the condition.

75. The method of claim 42, wherein the method further comprises enabling extraction of at least one portion of the representative image and enabling the subject to view the extracted portion on a display device, and wherein the at least one first prompt prompts the subject to self-evaluate an actual condition of an actual portion of the subject corresponding to the extracted portion.

76. The method of claim 75, wherein enabling generation of the enhanced image comprises enabling altering of at least the extracted portion of the representative image based on the subject's response to the at least one first prompt.

77. The method of claim 75, wherein the enabling extraction comprises enabling extraction of a plurality of portions of the representative image.

78. The method of claim 42, further comprising causing display, on a display device, of a representation of the representative image having fuzzy distortion.

79. The method of claim 78, wherein generation of the enhanced image comprises altering the displayed image, based on the subject's response to the at least one first prompt, to remove at least a portion of the fuzzy distortion.

80. The method of claim 79, wherein each response to the at least one first prompt causes further removal of the fuzzy distortion.

81. The method of claim 79, wherein the displayed image is altered so that a representation of the external body condition is substituted in place of said at least a portion of the fuzzy distortion.

82. The method of claim 42, wherein the at least one second prompt comprises at least one question.

83. A method of constructing an image of an external body condition, the method comprising:

receiving at least one representative image of an external body condition of a subject;

causing presentation to the subject of at least one first prompt prompting the subject to self-evaluate at least one of actual color and actual texture of the external body condition;

receiving from the subject at least one response to the at least one first prompt;

generating, based on the representative image and the at least one response, an enhanced image intended to more accurately portray the subject's external body condition;

causing the enhanced image to be displayed to the subject;

causing presentation to the subject of at least one second prompt prompting the subject to indicate whether the enhanced image is accurate; and

receiving from the subject at least one response to the at least one second prompt.

84. An electronic system for constructing an image of an external body condition, the system comprising:

a processor for receiving at least one representative image of an external body condition of a subject;

a first prompt generating module for presenting to the subject at least one first prompt prompting the subject to self-evaluate at least one of color and texture of the external body condition;

a first input receiving module for receiving from the subject at least one response to the at least one first prompt;

an image generator, for generating from the actual image and the at least one response, an enhanced image intended to more accurately portray the subject's external body condition;

a image module for causing the enhanced image to be displayed to the subject;

a second prompt generating module for causing at least one second prompt to be presented to the subject, the second prompt prompting the subject to confirm an accuracy of the enhanced image; and

a second input receiving module for receiving from the subject a response to the at least one second prompt.

85. A method of constructing a facial image, the method comprising:
prompting a subject to cause input into a computer of a facial image of the subject, wherein the facial image includes at least one bias element that may tend to cause the subject to perceive that the facial image may inaccurately portray reality;
enabling an identification in the facial image of the at least one bias element;
enabling the subject to participate in selecting a new visual element to replace the at least one identified bias element;
enabling the construction of an altered image from the facial image by replacing the at least identified one bias element with the new visual element; and
enabling the altered image to be displayed to the subject.

86. The method of claim 85, wherein the prompting comprises prompting the subject to capture the facial image using an image capture device and to input the facial image to the computer.

87. The method of claim 85, wherein enabling an identification comprises enabling the subject to identify the at least one bias element.

88. The method of claim 85, wherein enabling an identification comprises enabling the subject to be informed about presence of the at least one bias element.

89. The method of claim 85, wherein the at least one bias element is chosen from at least one of skin pigmentation, skin texture, skin sheen, skin tone, skin mattiness, skin wrinkles, and skin lines.

90. The method of claim 85, wherein enabling the subject to participate in selecting the new visual element comprises causing at least one control element to

be displayed on a display device and enabling activation of the control element to viewing differing visual elements.

91. The method of claim 85, wherein enabling the subject to participate in selecting the new visual element comprises causing a plurality of selectable condition representations to be displayed on the display device, and enabling the subject to select at least one of the condition representations.

92. The method of claim 85, further comprising causing display, on a display device, of a representation of the facial image having fuzzy distortion.

93. The method of claim 92, wherein the displayed facial image is altered, based on the selection of the new visual element, to remove at least a portion of the fuzzy distortion.

94. The method of claim 93, wherein each selection of a new visual element causes further removal of the fuzzy distortion.

95. The method of claim 93, wherein the displayed image is altered so that a representation of the new visual element is substituted in place of said at least a portion of the fuzzy distortion.

96. A method of constructing a body image, the method comprising:
causing presentation of at least one initial body image of the subject;
causing presentation of at least one prompt prompting the subject to self-evaluate an actual condition of the subject's own body;
enabling the subject to respond to the at least one prompt; and

enabling the initial body image to be altered based on the subject's response to the at least one prompt, to thereby reflect in the altered image the self-evaluation of the subject.

97. The method of claim 96, wherein the initial image is present in two-dimensional form.

98. The method of claim 96, wherein the initial image is presented in three-dimensional form.

99. The method of claim 96, wherein the method comprises at least one of transmitting information via a network and receiving information via the network.

100. A method of enabling color-calibrating of a self-image for use in simulating a beauty product use, the method comprising:

prompting a subject to capture, using an image capture device, an image of a body region of the subject;

enabling the display of the captured image to the subject on a display device;

prompting the subject to compare a color of the displayed image with an actual color of the subject;

enabling the subject to calibrate the color of the image when the subject perceives a difference between the displayed image and the actual skin color; and

enabling the subject to simulate use of at least one beauty product on the color calibrated image.

101. The method of claim 100, further comprising causing the image to be processed in a manner enabling simulated use of the at least one beauty product on predetermined portions of the image.

102. The method of claim 100, wherein the image capture device is chosen from a digital camera and a scanner.

103. The method of claim 100, wherein prompting the subject to compare color comprises prompting the subject to place the body region adjacent to the display device and to visually perceive whether the color of the displayed image and the actual color of the body region differ.

104. The method of claim 100, wherein enabling the subject to calibrate color comprises enabling the display of a plurality of colors, enabling the subject to select one of the displayed colors closest to the actual color of the subject's body region, and enabling alteration of the displayed image to include the selected color.

105. The method of claim 100, wherein enabling the subject to simulate use of at least one beauty product comprises enabling the subject to select the at least one beauty product from a plurality of beauty products and causing a simulation of use of the selected beauty product to appear on a region of the color calibrated image.

106. The method of claim 100, wherein enabling the subject to calibrate enables the subject to calibrate the displayed image to simulate at least one of an actual skin tone and an actual hair color.

107. A method of color-calibrating an image for use in simulating a beauty product use, the method comprising:

capturing, using an image capture device, an image of a body region;
viewing display of the captured image on a display device;

comparing a color of the displayed image with an actual color of the body region;

calibrating the color of the image when a difference is perceived between the displayed image and the actual color of the body region; and

causing a simulation of use of at least one beauty product on the color calibrated image.

108. The method of claim 107, wherein the image is processed in a manner enabling simulated use of the at least one beauty product on predetermined portions of the image.

109. The method of claim 107, wherein the image capture device is chosen from a digital camera and a scanner.

110. The method of claim 107, wherein comparing a color comprises placing the body region adjacent to the display device and visually perceiving whether the color of the displayed image and the actual color of the body region differ.

111. The method of claim 107, wherein calibrating the color comprises viewing display of a plurality of colors, selecting one of the displayed colors closest to the actual color of the body region, and causing alteration of the displayed image to include the selected color.

112. The method of claim 107, wherein causing simulated use comprises selecting the at least one beauty product from a plurality of beauty products and causing a simulation of the selected beauty product to appear on a region of the color calibrated image.

113. The method of claim 107, wherein calibrating comprises calibrating the displayed image to simulate at least one of an actual skin tone and an actual hair color.

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